Crosscountry USA 2

TEACHER RESOURCE GUIDE

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Contents

Using Crosscountry USA 2 in Your Classroom 3
- Sample Game 4
- Recommended Classroom Use 7
- Educational Objectives 7
- Methodology 8
  - Group Activity 9
  - Small Group or Independent Activity 10
  - ESL Activity 11
  - Teach Database or Spreadsheet Concepts 11
  - Teach About Heritage Sites 11
  - Teach Survival Math Skills 12
  - Activities to Develop Geographic Literacy 12
  - Activities for Personal Planning and Social Responsibility 13

Scenario Creator 14

Game Materials 15
- City–Commodity Cross-Reference 16
- Commodity–City Cross-Reference 19
- U.S. Postal Abbreviations 23
- Similar Games 24
- Small Map 28
- Route Planning Guide 29
- Extension Activities 30
- Did You Know? 31
- Other Things to Think About! 33
- Crosscountry USA 2 Driver's License Activity 34
- Crosscountry USA 2 Driver's License Application Form 36
- Official Driver's License 39
- Crosscountry USA Vocabulary List 40

Using Crosscountry USA 2 in Your Classroom

Crosscountry USA 2 is an interactive geography program designed to teach and strengthen many different skills. Students become long-distance truck drivers and are assigned to pick up commodities on their journey.

The program allows students to have fun while they learn:

- Facts about the United States (weather, terrain, cities, population, capitals and more)
- Basic map-reading and map-interpretation skills
- How to budget (time, distance and expenses)

The program may be played on different levels.

Younger children tend to use the program at an introductory level. They learn basic facts about map reading and the differences in terrain across the country. Crosscountry USA 2 also teaches students where cities and states are located, as well as where commodities are produced.

Older children tend to use the program at a more complex level. They learn the facts, but they also learn methods for determining the fastest, most cost-effective route to their destination.

The game is an excellent tool to promote geographic literacy. It also helps broaden children's knowledge about the U.S. while developing higher-level thinking skills.

To familiarize yourself with Crosscountry USA 2, we suggest that you start by trying the Sample Game on page 4.

For more information about the Educational Objectives of Crosscountry USA 2, please turn to page 7.

Sample Game

This Sample Game is the fastest way to learn the basics of Crosscountry USA. You should be up to speed in about 15 minutes.

Follow these learning steps:

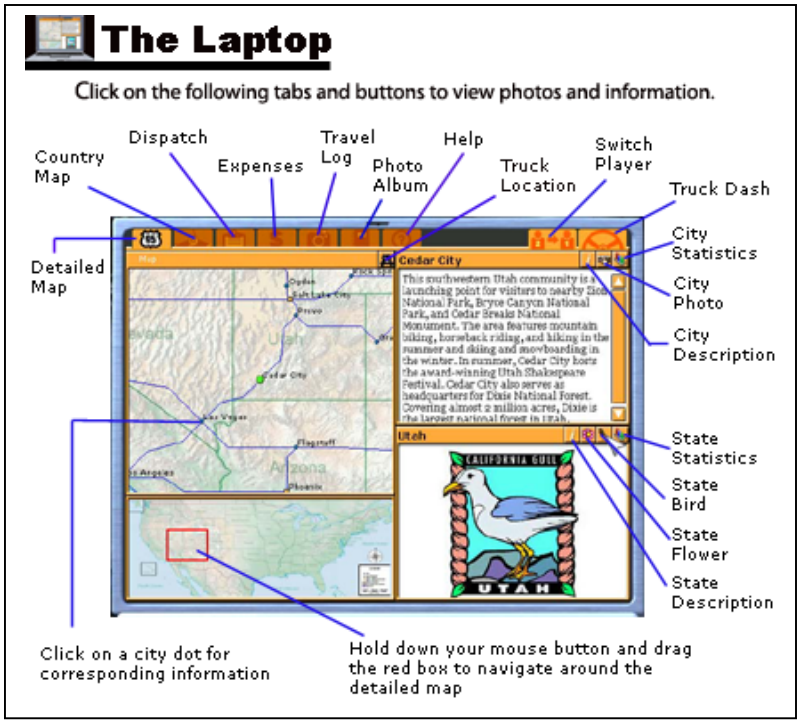
Make sure that you have the large wall map with the Commodity–City Cross-Reference chart on hand.

Launch Crosscountry USA 2 and click 'Load Scenario'. At 'Number of Players', click '1'. Under 'Scenario', click 'sample.scn'.

Click 'Load Scenario'. The truck's Laptop shows you your 'Dispatch Assignment'. This assignment gives you critical information that you need to play the game.

Click the 'Country Map' tab (look for the 'N' in the upper-left corner of the screen, as seen in the Laptop diagram below). A map of the U.S. appears, showing you where your truck is currently located, your destination city, and where your commodities are located. You may look at this screen at any time during the game.

In the sample scenario, your truck is in San Francisco, California, your destination city is Albuquerque, New Mexico, and you need to pick up oranges and sheep. For this sample game, pick up oranges first. According to the map, you will find oranges in Tampa, Florida and in Los Angeles, California. Since Los Angeles is closest to San Francisco, go to Los Angeles.



Click the 'Detailed Map' tab (look for the 'Highway 95' tab in the upper-left corner of the screen) to plan your route. Press and drag the small red box to navigate around the map.

Then click the 'Dash' icon (look for the steering wheel in the top right-hand corner of the screen) to get back to the cab of the truck. Click the seatbelt to buckle up. Click the key in the ignition. The key turns to the 'on' position.

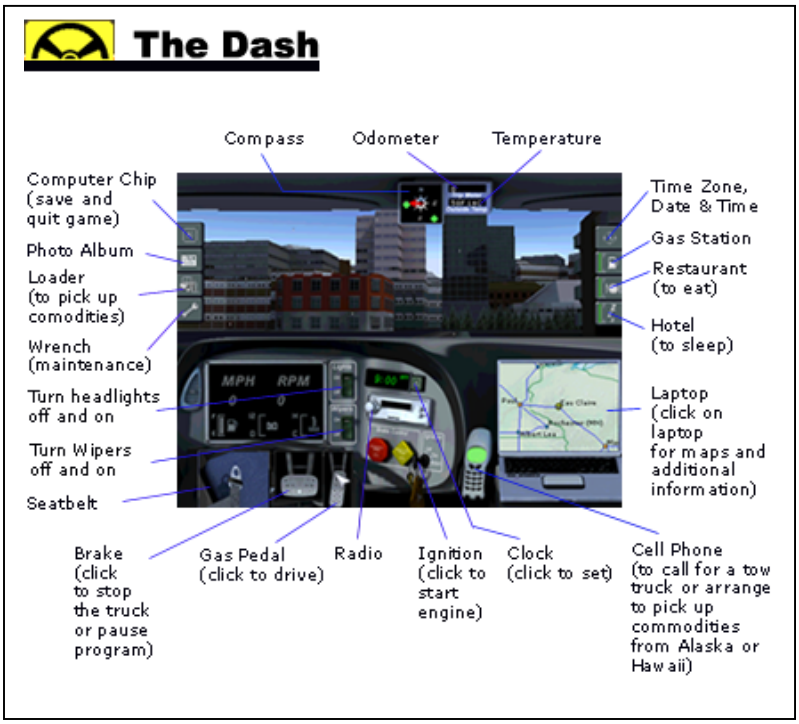
On your compass at the top of the windshield, click the direction in which you would like to go (all possible directions are lit up in green). In this case, choose SE (southeast).

Finally, click the gas pedal and you will start to drive. You are now driving along the west coast of the United States, headed for Los Angeles.

While you drive, keep an eye on the 'Sleep' (ZZZ) and 'Restaurant' (dinner plate) icons on the right-hand side of your screen to ensure that you are not tired or hungry. If you decide to eat or sleep, click the appropriate icon. The cost will then be added to your expenses.

Once you arrive in Los Angeles, click the 'Loader' button on the left-hand side of the windshield.

If the warehouse is closed (warehouses are only open between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.), you will have to click 'Wait' in order to pass time. You must wait until the warehouse opens or find another way to pass time. When the warehouse opens, click 'Load'.



The next commodity you'll need to pick up is sheep. After looking at your Country Map, you see that sheep are available in Albuquerque, NM; Flagstaff, AZ; and Sacramento, CA.

Use the large wall map or click the 'Detailed Map' tab to consider which city to visit. Remember that you have to deliver your cargo to Albuquerque, New Mexico.

At this point, you will have to choose between three routes. As you can see from the wall map that comes with the game, you can go through Las Vegas, San Diego or Phoenix.

**Note:* by adding up the miles, you can see that the "Albuquerque via Phoenix and Flagstaff" route is 856 miles long. The "Albuquerque via Las Vegas and Flagstaff" route is ten miles longer! And the Albuquerque via San Diego, Yuma, Phoenix and Flagstaff is 962 miles long.

We recommend the Phoenix route. Click the 'Dash' button to get back to the cab of the truck.

Select east on your compass (by clicking 'E') and click on the gas pedal. The program notifies you when you cross the state line into Arizona and the Mountain Time Zone.

When you arrive in Phoenix, set your clock (click the button beside the clock on your dash) to be sure that the time is accurate.

If you run out of gas between cities, you can rescue yourself by selecting 'Tow Truck' from the cell phone.

Continue on to Flagstaff using the map and compass. Once you get to Flagstaff, click the 'Loader' button, and then click 'Load'.

You have now picked up all of your assigned commodities. Next, you have to deliver them to your destination city, Albuquerque.

Once you arrive in your destination city, you will have completed the game. Study your Travel Log. Did you make good choices?

If so, congratulations!

Recommended Classroom Use

Crosscountry USA 2 can be used in the classroom (grades 4 through 9) in a variety of ways:

- One player on one computer
- Two players or two groups of two on one computer
- As group activities

We recommend two players (or two groups of two) play on one computer. This strategy promotes collaboration, teamwork and communication.

Crosscountry USA 2 picks starting and finishing cities on opposite coasts and then calculates a game. The program makes these games reasonably equal in terms of miles traveled. If you would like to use games that are pre-designed, then read about the Similar Games (page 24).

You may want to laminate the Crosscountry USA 2 wall map.

Educational Objectives

Crosscountry USA 2 can be seamlessly integrated into a regular social studies/geography program and complement a textbook, direct instruction, and class assignments. It is a valuable instructional tool that adds excitement and variety to the concepts and skills covered in class.

Through multimedia, students can interactively learn basic skills related to map reading and map interpretation, plan routes, make decisions, and learn about U.S. geography.

Crosscountry USA 2 is a "real life" simulation program. While driving across the U.S., students learn about the relationship between time, distance and money.

Students can make decisions and then analyze their Travel Log to determine if they made wise choices. For example, the dispatcher may offer the player a $350 bonus to pick up a specified commodity.

The decision is entirely up to the player. The player will need to compare the cost and amount of gas it will take to pick up the commodity versus the $350 bonus.

Skills and knowledge

Crosscountry USA 2 reinforces the following skills and knowledge:

- Map reading, direction, interpreting symbols, calculating and estimating distances, latitude and longitude, and locating information
- Political geography: locating cities, states, capitals, and commodities
- Spatial relationships and distances between cities and states
- Economic geography: major national commodities and their relevance to the economy of the United States
- Physical geography: some knowledge of terrain
- Higher-level thinking skills such as decision making, problem solving and strategy planning

- Time zones: Crosscountry USA 2 can be used to teach the concept of changing time zones

The program also supports the following Social Studies elements:

- Distinguish among city, state and nation
- Describe landforms and climates of various regions of the U.S.A.
- Identify major economic resources of regions of the United States
- Describe the physical, cultural and economic features of the U.S.A.
- Describe the geographic regions of the country
- Locate places of historical significance in the United States
- Describe the role of major industries in the economic development of the United States

Methodology

Introduce

Discuss the skill or concept being taught. Before introducing Crosscountry USA 2, your students should have basic knowledge of U.S. geography. We recommend that you cover the following vocabulary: region, state, commodity, economy, direction, and compass.

You might also consider using our Crosscountry USA 2 Driver's License Activity to introduce the program to your students (see page 34).

Demonstrate

Using a projector, show your students how to use the program. Make sure that your students know where to access information on which to base their decisions.

After you have demonstrated the program, go to the Travel Log to discuss with the class how they might have taken a different route. Have students predict the outcome if alternate routes were taken.

Motivate

Set the goals. Encourage the students to collaborate and work as a team. Explain to them what they should do and approximately how long they will have to accomplish the task.

For example, "You will break your group into two teams. After 20 minutes, I will check to see that each team has picked up at least one commodity."

Depending upon the number of computers available, divide students into teams of trucking firms. The ideal group size is between 2 and 4 players per team. While Team 1 plays its planned game at the computer, Team 2 plans its game.

The Small Map (see page 28) and the Route Planning Guide (page 29) can be photocopied. Players can use them to help plan their games.

Observe

This is an excellent time to observe individual student and team performance. Once the program assigns a commodity, students should consult the Commodity–City Cross-Reference chart or the Country Map to find out where the commodity is available. Transfer this information to the Route Planning Guide.

Consult the Large (wall) Map to find the current location of the truck. Students then locate the various cities that contain the needed commodity and estimate which one is closest.

Calculators may be used to add up the distance between cities for an accurate measurement of the distance. Students then use this information to decide their route. The shortest route may not always be best.

We recommend that the Large Map be located away from the computer so that students transfer their route plan from the Large Map to the Small Map and use that for a reference when using the computer. This reinforces map reading and knowledge of the location of cities.

The Small Map and Route Planning Guide give the students a written record of game decisions so that they can see a relationship between their expenses and the routes they took.

Summarize

Have students discuss the strategies they used. Encourage groups to suggest different methods and procedures that would yield success. Remember, there is more than one way to solve most problems.

Compare and calculate gas mileage at the end of the trip. In Crosscountry USA 2, gas costs $1 per gallon. The truck's gas tank holds 200 gallons.

The truck averages about 16 miles per gallon. Gas mileage varies depending on the terrain (better in flat areas and worse in mountainous areas). Speeding and driving through mountain terrain increase fuel consumption.

Apply

Apply skills and concepts to other situations. Extension activities provided at the back of this guide (see page 30) build upon the learning encouraged in Crosscountry USA 2.

GROUP ACTIVITY

We recommend Crosscountry USA 2 group activities when you have only a small number of computers or as an introduction to the program.

Materials

- A computer
- A projector located at the front of the class

- A game 'Scenario.' You can use a 'Similar Game' or use the Scenario Creator program to make your own. These games are described in the 'Help' section of the program.
- Cross-reference charts, maps and/or work maps included with the program

Procedure

1. Divide the class into two groups of 'trucking companies.'
2. Pass out the 'work maps' to each student.
3. Photocopy the Route Planning Guide and pass it out to the students. (See page 29. This is optional.)
4. Enter instructions given to each team.

Time Required

A 4-commodity mission will require about 40 minutes of actual play. A 10-commodity game takes about 1 1/2 hours.

Allow for ten minutes at the end of a game to evaluate the choices made and discuss if the player(s) could have made more-efficient choices. A good project would be for each student to write a short summary of his or her trip.

Long Games

An excellent mission is Scenario 31 on page 27. It requires both teams to drive about the same distance and travel through most of the United States. Shorter games are also available (see Scenarios 1 to 7 on page 24). **Note:* Your game can be saved and restarted at any point.

Running the Program

Each team's decisions are entered by the teacher or selected student. You may divide responsibilities amongst the team members. Each team makes group decisions on when to eat, sleep and buy gas, and which city to travel to next.

You may assign the route planning to one student or group of students, or leave it as a group decision. Other members may be responsible for recording the routes taken, cities visited, their population, state locations, and features. When the game is over, a winning team will be declared.

SMALL GROUP OR INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY

We recommend Crosscountry USA 2 small-group activities when you have enough computers. Read the 'Methodology' section of this guide (page 8) before allowing the players to start Crosscountry USA 2 on their own.

Materials

- One computer per student or small group.
- Cross-reference charts, maps, and/or work maps included with the program

Procedure

1. Introduce the program, or follow the steps in the Driver's License Activity.
2. Photocopy the Route Planning Guide and pass out to the students.
3. Pass out the 'work maps' to each student.
4. Have students launch the program and let Crosscountry USA 2 set up a game or use a game 'Scenario' (see page 14 for more information about the Scenario Creator).
5. After students have finished their game, have them print their Travel Log.
6. You may want to do one or more of the activities described in this guide.

Time Required

A 4-commodity mission (2 players) will require about 40 minutes of actual play. A 10-commodity game takes about 1 1/2 hours.

Using the Program in a Cross-Curricular Environment:

ESL ACTIVITY

Go over the Crosscountry USA 2 Vocabulary List with your students. Then arrange them in small groups of two or more. Encourage students to work as a team and communicate on the best route to take to pick up all assigned commodities using the optimal route.

Assign one student in the team to record the names of the cities, states and state capitals as they travel along the highway. Choose one person in each group to present to the class their team's route using the Large Map as a visual.

The "presenting" students must describe the route saying each city name, state and state capital that they visited on their trip.

TEACH DATABASE OR SPREADSHEET CONCEPTS

You must have your own database or spreadsheet program to complete this activity. Design a database or spreadsheet template. Then allow each student to open up a copy of this template and save it with his/her own name. Each record may be used to record a city, the state in which it is located, its population, available commodities, and points of interest. Students can also collect other information such as state birds, state flower, etc.

After the data has been collected, students can analyze the data to determine the most common state bird or flower, ten largest cites in the U.S., etc.

TEACH ABOUT HERITAGE SITES

Crosscountry USA 2 may also be used to focus on history. The program includes more than 15 UNESCO World Heritage sites located in the U.S. While your students are on a driving assignment, ask them to take note of all of the postcards they are able to pick up. Each student chooses one postcard (heritage site) to research and write about. If you

like, you can use the Scenario Creator to make trips that ensure the students pick up postcards.

The following are research links for students:

The World Heritage List:
http://whc.unesco.org/heritage.htm

UNESCO World Heritage Education site:
http://whc.unesco.org/education/index.htm

TEACH SURVIVAL MATH SKILLS

Crosscountry USA 2 may be used to focus on math. Design a scenario or just start Crosscountry USA 2, and have your students estimate the amount of gas it will take get to reach their ending city.

Allow them to play the game, and then check their estimates. Prior to starting their trip, have students estimate their expenses. Have them check their estimates after the game is played.

ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP GEOGRAPHIC LITERACY

Write a report on a Crosscountry USA 2 commodity.

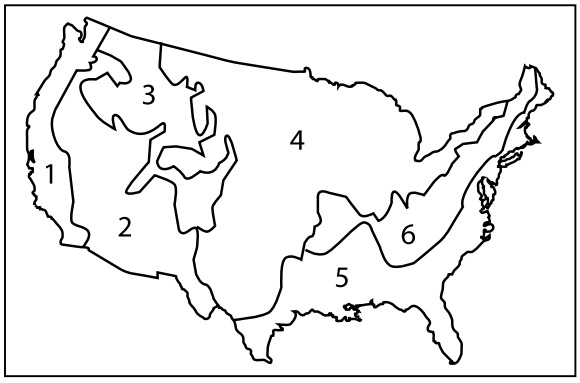
Write a report on a commodity that is not in Crosscountry USA 2 but should, in the student's opinion, be included.

Discuss or write a report on water as it relates to cities and towns. What does water mean to different communities? Find cities or towns where water was not important in their formation or development. Are they a minority?

Using an outline map of the United States, draw where the various natural regions of the United States are and color them in. Make a table of the regions, the specific geographical features in that region, and the kinds of activities that are carried out.

There are many ways of dividing the United States into regions. The most common divisions are by Edwin H. Hammond, 1965:

1. Pacific Mountain Division
2. Intermontane Division
3. Rocky Mountain Division
4. Interior Division
5. Gulf-Atlantic Division
6. Eastern Highland Division



What other ways might there be of dividing up the United States into regions?

Compare the lives of people living far from each other but in similar geographical settings. For example, compare fishers on the east and west coasts.

You could also discuss the lives of people in Idaho and New Mexico (both in the Rocky Mountains) or in Missouri and Louisiana (along the Mississippi River).

Compare the characteristics of life on the farms of the interior plains with farms in similar areas of the world. For example, compare the U.S. interior plains to those of Australia, Canada, the Ukraine or Argentina.

ACTIVITIES FOR PERSONAL PLANNING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Encourage students to participate in discussions of the importance of geography in shaping our lives.
- Encourage students to participate in discussions as to how the role of physical geography has changed over time. Is it more or less important to our lives now than in the past?
- Encourage students to discuss how all living things are influenced by geography, and how people act to influence geography.
- Discuss the cultural activities that are related to specific geographical areas (e.g. sea festivals, agricultural fairs).
- Discuss how geography shapes the ways communities are similar and different.
- Discuss the rules of the road from a truck driver's perspective (e.g. specific difficulties in eating or sleeping).
- Discuss or write a report on the commodities in Crosscountry USA 2 that can be serious health hazards if misused.
- Invite a resource person from industry or government to tell about the importance of a local commodity.
- Invite an older person or local historian to tell about life in the early years of your community.
- Discuss how geography makes groups feel related to or distant from each other. For example, why do people in Maine feel closer to New Brunswick than to New York? How does living on an island affect one’s perceptions?

Scenario Creator

In Crosscountry USA 2, a scenario is a truck-driving assignment. A scenario includes your starting city, your destination city, and the commodities you need to pick up along the way. Please note that your starting and ending cities cannot be in Alaska or Hawaii.

You can create your own scenarios by clicking 'Scenario Creator' on the Main Menu. Choose your starting and ending cities (the starting and ending cities cannot be the same).

Next, choose the needed commodities by highlighting the commodity of your choice and clicking 'Add.' You can only add 1 commodity at a time to a maximum of 12, and all the commodities must be different. Finally, if you wish, choose a bonus commodity. If you make a mistake, click 'Clear' to start over again.

All scenarios are saved as 2-player games; however, you can choose the 1-player option when you start the game. The file name for your scenario must be less than 27 characters and will automatically be given the extension “.scn”.

To find out the directory in which your scenarios will be automatically saved, click 'Options' on the Main Menu. All of your directories are listed there.

Deleting saved games

All saved games are located in the Saved Games (saved_games) directory/folder. To find the Saved Games directory, go to the Main Menu and click 'Options'. The Options screen shows you the location of the Saved Games directory. We suggest that you write down the path for future reference.

It’s easy to delete saved games, so be careful. Quit Crosscountry USA 2. Then browse to the Saved Games directory and simply delete any saved game files you do not want.

Game Materials

THINGS YOU MAY PHOTOCOPY

The following materials may be copied when needed for classroom use:

City–Commodity Cross-Reference: A complete listing of all 202 cities & towns and the commodities available in each (see page 16; also available as a Portable Document Format [PDF] file on your Crosscountry USA 2 CD-ROM)

- *(CD-ROM)\Crosscountry USA 2\Game Materials\city_commodity.pdf*

Commodity–City Cross-Reference: A complete listing of all 53 commodities and the cities where they can be found (see page 19; also as PDF file on CD)

- *(CD-ROM)\Crosscountry USA 2\Game Materials\commodity_city.pdf*

U.S. Postal Abbreviations (see page 23)

Similar Games: A list of prepared (ready-made) game scenarios that are similar in distance (see page 24)

Small Map: A map of the United States that leaves out the names of cities and states. You can use this map to test students' knowledge of the names of cities and states as well as capitals. (see page 28; also as PDF file on CD)

- *(CD-ROM)\Crosscountry USA 2\Game Materials\small_map.pdf*

Route Planning Guide: A sheet to help you plan your journey across the U.S. by filling in city names and commodity locations, as well as the distances from one city to another (see page 29)

Extension Activities: A list of some interesting and unusual festivals in and facts about the United States (see page 30)

Crosscountry USA 2 Driver's License Application Form and Certificate (see pages 36 to 39)

Crosscountry USA Vocabulary List (see page 40)

City–Commodity Cross-Reference

**Note:* This chart is also available as a PDF file on your Crosscountry USA 2 CD-ROM. See (CD-ROM)*Crosscountry USA 2\Game Materials\city_commodity.pdf*. You can view and print this file with the free Adobe Reader software from www.adobe.com.

City Name	Commodities Available	
Albuquerque, NM	Sheep	Uranium
Allentown, PA	Zinc	
Amarillo, TX	Cotton	
Atlanta, GA	Textiles	
Augusta, GA	Granite	
Austin, TX	Wool	
Baltimore, MD	Steel	
Bangor, ME	Potatoes	Paper
Baton Rouge, LA	Salt	Rice
Binghamton, NY	Cameras	Salt
Birmingham, AL	Steel	
Bismarck, ND	Wheat	
Boston, MA	Seafood	Computers
Bowling Green, KY	Tobacco	
Burlington, VT	Maple Syrup	
Casper, WY	Uranium	Wool
Charleston, WV	Coal	Glass
Charlotte, NC	Textiles	
Chicago, IL	Rubber	
Cincinnati, OH	Cars	
Cleveland, OH	Steel	
Coeur d'Alene, ID	Silver	Lead
Concord, NH	Granite	
Dallas, TX	Beef	Aircraft Parts
Davenport, IA	Hogs	
Dayton, OH	Rubber	
Denver, CO	Molybdenum	
Des Moines, IA	Corn	Soybeans
Detroit, MI	Cars	
Dubuque, IA	Hogs	
Duluth, MN	Iron	
Eau Claire, WI	Milk	Paper
El Paso, TX	Sulfur	
Eugene, OR	Lumber	
Flagstaff, AZ	Sheep	
Gary, IN	Steel	

City Name	Commodities Available	
Grand Rapids, MI	Furniture	Apples
Great Falls, MT	Wheat	
Greensboro, NC	Furniture	Tobacco
Greenville, SC	Textiles	
Hartford, CT	Aircraft Parts	
Honolulu, HI	Pineapples	
Houston, TX	Oil	Rice
Indianapolis, IN	Cars	
Jackson, MS	Cotton	
Jefferson City, MO	Soybeans	
Juneau, AK	Oil	
Knoxville, TN	Marble	
Las Cruces, NM	Copper	Natural Gas
Little Rock, AR	Rice	
Los Angeles, CA	Clothing	Oranges
Louisville, KY	Chemicals	
Macon, GA	Peanuts	
Madison, WI	Milk	Vegetables
Manchester, NH	Leather	
Miami, FL	Vegetables	
Milwaukee, WI	Beer	
Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN	Milk	
Montgomery, AL	Peanuts	
Montpelier, VT	Marble	
Nashville, TN	Zinc	
New Orleans, LA	Sulfur	
New York, NY	Books	Clothing
Newark, NJ	Chemicals	
North Platte, NE	Corn	
Oklahoma City, OK	Natural Gas	
Omaha, NE	Beef	
Peoria, IL	Corn	
Philadelphia, PA	Glass	Paper
Phoenix, AZ	Molybdenum	Cotton
Pittsburgh, PA	Steel	
Pocatello, ID	Potatoes	
Portland, OR	Lumber	
Providence, RI	Jewelry	
Raleigh, NC	Tobacco	
Rapid City, SD	Gold	
Reno, NV	Silver	
Richmond, VA	Tobacco	

City Name	Commodities Available	
Roanoke, VA	Textiles	
Rochester, NY	Cameras	Apples
Rock Springs, WY	Coal	
Sacramento, CA	Vegetables	Sheep
Salt Lake City, UT	Copper	Gold
San Antonio, TX	Beef	
San Diego, CA	Seafood	Aircraft Parts
San Francisco, CA	Wine	Computers
Seattle, WA	Lumber	Aircraft Parts
Sheridan, WY	Coal	
Shreveport, LA	Natural Gas	Oil
Spokane, WA	Apples	Potatoes
Springfield, IL	Soybeans	
St. Louis, MO	Lead	Zinc
Tampa, FL	Oranges	Fertilizer
Toledo, OH	Cars	
Topeka, KS	Wheat	
Tucson, AZ	Copper	Silver
Wichita, KS	Wheat	
Wilmington, DE	Chemicals	
Yuma, AZ	Copper	

Commodity–City Cross-Reference

**Note:* This chart is also available as a PDF file on your Crosscountry USA 2 CD-ROM. See (CD-ROM)*Crosscountry USA 2\Game Materials\commodity_city.pdf*. You can view and print this file with the free Adobe Reader software from www.adobe.com.

Commodity	Cities Available
Aircraft Parts	Dallas, TX Hartford, CT San Diego, CA Seattle, WA
Apples	Grand Rapids, MI Rochester, NY Spokane, WA
Beef	Dallas, TX Omaha, NE San Antonio, TX
Beer	Milwaukee, WI
Books	New York, NY
Cameras	Binghamton, NY Rochester, NY
Cars	Cincinnati, OH Detroit, MI Indianapolis, IN Toledo, OH
Chemicals	Louisville, KY Newark, NJ Wilmington, DE
Clothing	Los Angeles, CA New York, NY
Coal	Charleston, WV Rock Springs, WY Sheridan, WY
Computers	Boston, MA San Francisco, CA
Copper	Las Cruces, NM Salt Lake City, UT Tucson, AZ Yuma, AZ
Corn	Des Moines, IA North Platte, NE Peoria, IL

Commodity	Cities Available
Cotton	Amarillo, TX Jackson, MS Phoenix, AZ
Fertilizer	Tampa, FL
Furniture	Grand Rapids, MI Greensboro, NC
Glass	Charleston, WV Philadelphia, PA
Gold	Rapid City, SD Salt Lake City, UT
Granite	Augusta, GA Concord, NH
Hogs	Davenport, IA Dubuque, IA
Iron	Duluth, MN
Jewelry	Providence, RI
Lead	Coeur d'Alene, ID St. Louis, MO
Leather	Manchester, NH
Lumber	Eugene, OR Portland, OR Seattle, WA
Maple Syrup	Burlington, VT
Marble	Knoxville, TN Montpelier, VT
Milk	Eau Claire, WI Madison, WI Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN
Molybdenum	Denver, CO Phoenix, AZ
Natural Gas	Las Cruces, NM Oklahoma City, OK Shreveport, LA
Oil	Houston, TX Juneau, AK Shreveport, LA
Oranges	Los Angeles, CA Tampa, FL
Paper	Bangor, ME Eau Claire, WI Philadelphia, PA
Peanuts	Macon, GA Montgomery, AL

Commodity	Cities Available
Pineapples	Honolulu, HI
Potatoes	Bangor, ME Pocatello, ID Spokane, WA
Rice	Baton Rouge, LA Houston, TX Little Rock, AR
Rubber	Chicago, IL Dayton, OH
Salt	Baton Rouge, LA Binghamton, NY
Seafood	Boston, MA San Diego, CA
Sheep	Albuquerque, NM Flagstaff, AZ Sacramento, CA
Silver	Coeur d'Alene, ID Reno, NV Tucson, AZ
Soybeans	Des Moines, IA Jefferson City, MO Springfield, IL
Steel	Baltimore, MD Birmingham, AL Cleveland, OH Gary, IN Pittsburgh, PA
Sulfur	El Paso, TX New Orleans, LA
Textiles	Atlanta, GA Charlotte, NC Greenville, SC Roanoke, VA
Tobacco	Bowling Green, KY Greensboro, NC Raleigh, NC Richmond, VA
Uranium	Albuquerque, NM Casper, WY
Vegetables	Madison, WI Miami, FL Sacramento, CA

Commodity	Cities Available
Wheat	Bismarck, ND Great Falls, MT Topeka, KS Wichita, KS
Wine	San Francisco, CA
Wool	Austin, TX Casper, WY
Zinc	Allentown, PA Nashville, TN St. Louis, MO

U.S. Postal Abbreviations

ALABAMA	AL	MONTANA	MT
ALASKA	AK	NEBRASKA	NE
ARIZONA	AZ	NEVADA	NV
ARKANSAS	AR	NEW HAMPSHIRE	NH
CALIFORNIA	CA	NEW JERSEY	NJ
COLORADO	CO	NEW MEXICO	NM
CONNECTICUT	CT	NEW YORK	NY
DELAWARE	DE	NORTH CAROLINA	NC
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	DC	NORTH DAKOTA	ND
FLORIDA	FL	OHIO	OH
GEORGIA	GA	OKLAHOMA	OK
HAWAII	HI	OREGON	OR
IDAHO	ID	PENNSYLVANIA	PA
ILLINOIS	IL	RHODE ISLAND	RI
INDIANA	IN	SOUTH CAROLINA	SC
IOWA	IA	SOUTH DAKOTA	SD
KANSAS	KS	TENNESSEE	TN
KENTUCKY	KY	TEXAS	TX
LOUISIANA	LA	UTAH	UT
MAINE	ME	VERMONT	VT
MARYLAND	MD	VIRGINIA	VA
MASSACHUSETTS	MA	WASHINGTON	WA
MICHIGAN	MI	WEST VIRGINIA	WV
MINNESOTA	MN	WISCONSIN	WI
MISSISSIPPI	MS	WYOMING	WY
MISSOURI	MO		

Similar Games

These game scenarios are designed to have similar mileages for the two players, assuming the players make the best decisions. For each scenario, the top line is the mission for player 1, and the bottom line is the mission for player 2.

Scenario Filename	Starting City	Destination City	Commodities
scenario01.scn	Portland, OR	Eugene, OR	Wheat, Copper, Clothing, Wine
	Cheyenne, WY	Atlanta, GA	Soybeans, Natural Gas, Salt, Oranges
scenario02.scn	Jacksonville, FL	Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN	Peanuts, Furniture, Cars, Soybeans
	San Diego, CA	New Orleans, LA	Silver, Beef, Salt, Cotton
scenario03.scn	Bangor, ME	Kansas City, KS	Jewelry, Apples, Rubber, Hogs
	Tampa, FL	Houston, TX	Peanuts, Tobacco, Lead, Natural Gas
scenario04.scn	New York, NY	Jacksonville, FL	Maple Syrup, Cameras, Coal, Marble
	Bellingham, WA	Phoenix, AZ	Potatoes, Coal, Molybdenum, Sheep
scenario05.scn	Duluth, MN	Norfolk, VA	Beef, Beer, Cars, Marble
	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	El Paso, TX	Fertilizer, Sulfur, Aircraft Parts, Uranium
scenario06.scn	Great Falls, MT	Las Vegas, NV	Silver, Copper, Vegetables, Aircraft Parts
	Great Falls, MT	Meridian, MS	Wool, Beef, Vegetables, Lead
scenario07.scn	Kansas City, KS	Duluth, MN	Soybeans, Chemicals, Apples, Steel
	Dover, DE	Indianapolis, IN	Books, Computers, Apples, Textiles

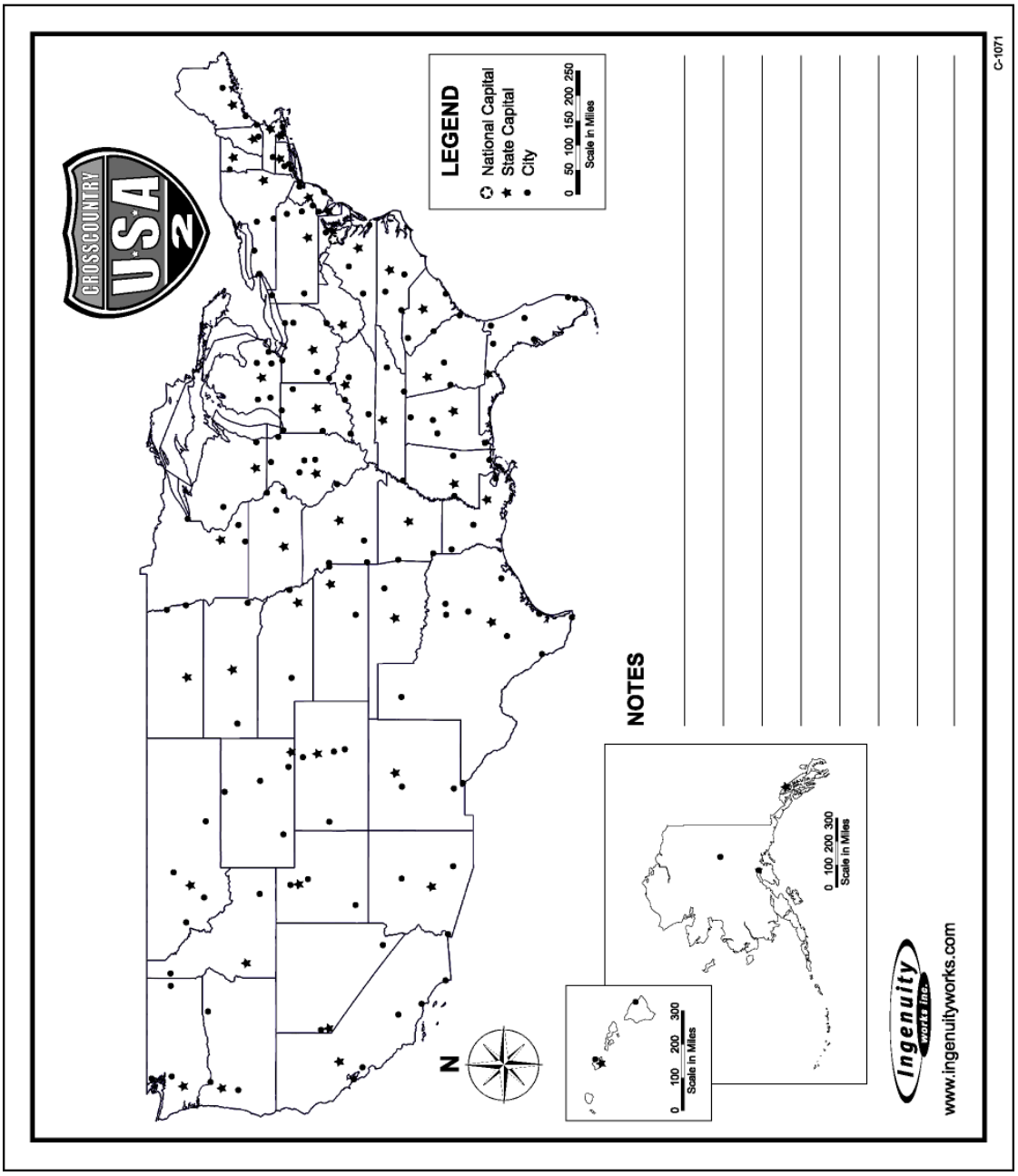
Scenario Filename	Starting City	Destination City	Commodities
scenario08.scn	Oklahoma City, OK	Tulsa, OK	Zinc, Marble, Steel, Oil
	Los Angeles, CA	Yuma, AZ	Copper, Wine, Silver, Cotton
scenario09.scn	Lake City, FL	Washington, DC	Vegetables, Granite, Zinc, Furniture
	Albany, NY	Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN	Leather, Aircraft Parts, Coal, Lead
scenario10.scn	Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN	Eugene, OR	Gold, Wool, Wheat, Apples
	San Francisco, CA	New Orleans, LA	Oranges, Uranium, Sulfur, Rice
scenario11.scn	Duluth, MN	Burlington, VT	Beer, Cars, Cameras, Clothing
	San Antonio, TX	Grand Forks, ND	Cotton, Wheat, Corn, Iron
scenario12.scn	Denver, CO	Los Angeles, CA	Potatoes, Apples, Aircraft Parts, Computers
	Kalamazoo, MI	Los Angeles, CA	Rubber, Wheat, Wool, Oranges
scenario13.scn	Rochester, MN	San Diego, CA	Gold, Corn, Sheep, Cotton
	Coeur d'Alene, ID	Tulsa, OK	Copper, Molybdenum, Wheat, Rice
scenario14.scn	Dallas, TX	Erie, PA	Aircraft Parts, Sulfur, Textiles, Chemicals
	Savannah, GA	Detroit, MI	Marble, Lead, Milk, Cars
scenario15.scn	Toledo, OH	Tampa, FL	Tobacco, Textiles, Cotton, Oranges
	Pittsburgh, PA	Louisville, KY	Cameras, Maple Syrup, Books, Glass

Scenario Filename	Starting City	Destination City	Commodities
scenario16.scn	Huntsville, AL	Olympia, WA	Rice, Molybdenum, Wool, Lumber
	New Orleans, LA	Seattle, WA	Salt, Oil, Potatoes, Lumber
scenario17.scn	San Francisco, CA	Philadelphia, PA	Oranges, Uranium, Wheat, Corn
	Spokane, WA	Augusta, GA	Apples, Oil, Salt, Granite
scenario18.scn	Montgomery, AL	Rochester, NY	Silver, Zinc, Books, Computers
	Bridgeport, CT	Birmingham, AL	Maple Syrup, Books, Zinc, Silver
scenario19.scn	Bangor, ME	Bismarck, ND	Seafood, Beef, Milk, Wheat
	Texarkana, AR	Salem, OR	Copper, Molybdenum, Vegetables, Lumber
scenario20.scn	New Orleans, LA	San Francisco, CA	Peanuts, Cotton, Aircraft Parts, Oranges
	Bellingham, WA	Louisville, KY	Silver, Iron, Corn, Rubber
scenario21.scn	Jacksonville, FL	Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN	Granite, Wool, Beef, Iron
	Louisville, KY	Portland, OR	Rubber, Corn, Iron, Silver
scenario22.scn	San Antonio, TX	Bangor, ME	Rice, Peanuts, Paper, Leather
	Bangor, ME	Baton Rouge, LA	Maple Syrup, Textiles, Tobacco, Sulfur
scenario23.scn	Portland, OR	Amarillo, TX	Wine, Vegetables, Coal, Natural Gas
	Denver, CO	Milwaukee, WI	Uranium, Lead, Soybeans, Vegetables

Scenario Filename	Starting City	Destination City	Commodities
scenario24.scn	Detroit, MI	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	Furniture, Glass, Marble, Tobacco
	Tallahassee, FL	Decatur, IL	Textiles, Furniture, Cameras, Cars
scenario25.scn	Colorado Spr., CO	Duluth, MN	Silver, Computers, Coal, Vegetables
	Seattle, WA	Savannah, GA	Uranium, Hogs, Cameras, Glass
scenario26.scn	Atlantic City, NJ	Tampa, FL	Aircraft Parts, Apples, Furniture, Zinc
	Philadelphia, PA	Miami, FL	Tobacco, Peanuts, Salt, Oranges
scenario27.scn	Roanoke, VA	Toledo, OH	Cameras, Aircraft Parts, Seafood, Jewelry
	Albany, NY	Greensboro, NC	Apples, Cameras, Peanuts, Furniture
scenario28.scn	Birmingham, AL	San Francisco, CA	Rice, Sulfur, Aircraft Parts, Vegetables
	Casper, WY	Tucson, AZ	Lumber, Seafood, Aircraft Parts, Cotton
scenario29.scn	Charleston, WV	Billings, MT	Chemicals, Furniture, Beer, Coal
	Salt Lake City, UT	Tulsa, OK	Cotton, Beef, Oil, Natural Gas
scenario30.scn	Des Moines, IA	New York, NY	Cars, Textiles, Vegetables, Salt
	Cleveland, OH	Flagstaff, AZ	Beer, Wheat, Copper, Uranium
scenario31.scn	Miami, FL	Bellingham, WA	Fertilizer, Peanuts, Lead, Hogs, Milk, Uranium, Potatoes
	Bangor, ME	San Francisco, CA	Cameras, Books, Zinc, Steel, Cars, Natural Gas, Oranges

Small Map

**Note:* This map is also available as a PDF file on your Crosscountry USA 2 CD-ROM. See (CD-ROM)*Crosscountry USA 2\Game Materials\small_map.pdf*. You can view and print this file with the free Adobe Reader software from www.adobe.com.



Route Planning Guide

Name _____ Date _____

Starting City _____ Commodities to pick up:

_____

Destination City _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

	Cities where commodity available:	Miles from location of truck:
Commodity: _____	_____	_____
Current truck location:	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Commodity: _____	_____	_____
Current truck location:	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Commodity: _____	_____	_____
Current truck location:	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Commodity: _____	_____	_____
Current truck location:	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Commodity: _____	_____	_____
Current truck location:	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Extension Activities

Here is a list of some interesting and unusual festivals in the United States. Using a highway map, plot the route you would use to go from one to the other. How many miles would you have to drive? Which are the five nearest to you? Plan a route, and keep track of the miles necessary to visit those five. Or plan a route to your favorite five!

Jan. 1 – Polar Bear Swim at Northside Beach in Sheboygan, WI. Sheboygan is 60 miles north of Milwaukee. Be sure you have a warm house to visit afterwards!

Feb. 16 – Burlington Winter Festival in Burlington, VT. This event was once a venue to lighten the spirits of the settlers during long, cold winters. Today, people celebrate by making snow sculptures and competing in snowshoe races.

Mar. 2 – The Los Angeles Marathon is held to foster community spirit and fitness. How many miles are there in a marathon?

Mar. 4 – Mardi Gras in New Orleans, LA. Pack your most exotic costume.

Late May to early June – The Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC celebrates southern talent, including everything from music to dance to art.

Early June – The Miami/Bahamas Goombay Festival in Miami, FL is one of the largest black-heritage events in the US. The festival features Caribbean dancing, music and food.

Mid-July – The Newport Music Festival in Newport, RI is called the "most festive of festivals in the world" and showcases some great music. Newport is 28 miles south of Providence.

Early August – The Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial in Gallup, NM is a major Indian festival with more than 50 tribes taking part in a parade, dances and rodeos. Gallup is 135 miles west of Albuquerque.

Sept. 19 – The Corn Island Storytelling Festival in Louisville, KY is where the best storytellers gather to swap tales.

October – The Hispanic Heritage Festival in Miami, FL celebrates the Hispanic contribution to U.S. culture.

Mid-November – The Holiday Folk Fair in Milwaukee, WI celebrates the multicultural flavor of the U.S. with dancing, costumes and food.

Mid-November – COMDEX in Las Vegas, NV is a technology marketplace. People visit to learn about new technologies and meet leaders in the industry.

Did You Know?

Use an atlas to search for the answers to the following questions!

1. What are the two longest rivers in the U.S.? How long are they?
2. What are the three largest cities in the U.S.?
3. What is the biggest lake completely within the U.S.?
4. What is the highest mountain in the continental U.S.?
5. What is the highest mountain in the U.S.?
6. What is the lowest point in the U.S.?
7. Which state has all of the following cities: Paris, London, Rome, Moscow, and Berlin?
8. Where is the one spot where you can stand in four states at once?
9. What is the area (in square miles) of each of the three largest states?
10. Which is farthest west? Pensacola, FL or Washington Island, WI? Los Angeles, CA or Reno, NV?
11. Name two states that are touched by eight other states.
12. How many states are named after presidents? How many state capitals are named after presidents?
13. Some sections of New Orleans are 5 feet below sea level. Albuquerque is 4950 feet above sea level. How many feet above sea level is your town?
14. Which city is farther north: Toronto, Canada; Seattle, Washington; or Minneapolis, Minnesota?

Answers

1. Mississippi/Missouri (3,740 miles) and Rio Grande (1,885 miles)
2. New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago
3. Lake Michigan
4. Whitney Mountain in California – 14,494 feet high!
5. McKinley Mountain in Alaska – 20,320 feet high!
6. Death Valley – 282 feet below sea level
7. Ohio
8. Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado
9. Alaska – 591,004 square miles, Texas – 266,807 square miles, California – 158,706 square miles
10. Pensacola, FL and Reno, NV
11. Tennessee and Missouri
12. One – Washington, Four – Jackson, MS; Lincoln, NE; Jefferson City, MO; Madison, WI
13. Look in your encyclopedia
14. Seattle, WA

Other Things to Think About!

- The United States covers 3,537,441 square miles. That makes it the fourth-largest country in the world after Russia, Canada and China. The U.S. represents 6.4% of the world's surface.

- Texas is twice the size of California and 248 times larger than Rhode Island.

- Big Bend National Park in Texas is about the same size as Rhode Island.

- In July 1913, Death Valley, California had the highest temperature recorded in the U.S. at 134°F (57°C).

- The United States has 12,372 miles of coastline. With 56,453 miles of coastline, Canada has the longest coastline in the world.

- The United States has 7,453 miles of international border.

- The United States has 29 cities with a population of more than 500,000.

- In the United States in the year 2000, male life expectancy was 74.24 years. That put the U.S. in 42nd place worldwide. In tiny Andorra, which ranked number one, male life expectancy was 80.56 years. Female life expectancy in the U.S. was 79.90 years (43rd place). In Andorra, which again ranked number one, it was 86.56 years.

- The five most common last names in the U.S. are Smith, Johnson, Williams, Jones and Brown.

- The five tallest buildings in the U.S. are:
    1) Sears Tower – Chicago – 1,450 feet
    2) Empire State – New York City – 1,250 feet
    3) AON Center – Chicago – 1,136 feet
    4) John Hancock Center – Chicago – 1,127 feet
    5) Chrysler Building – New York – 1,046 feet

- The first word spoken on the moon was “Houston.”

- According to the 2000 census, New York has the largest population of any U.S. city: 8,008,278.

Crosscountry USA 2 Driver's License Activity

As this is a written activity, it will be most appropriate with upper-elementary students. Feel free to add or omit steps in the activity to fit the sophistication and ability of your class.

Materials required

- Complete Crosscountry USA 2 package
- A variety of maps of the United States
- Access to an encyclopedia and other source material on U.S. commodities and cities
- Source material on the rules of the road. Check with your local motor vehicle branch
- Class set of "Crosscountry USA Driver's License" photocopied from the manual
- Class set of "Crosscountry USA Driver's License" application forms
- Vision chart (see the school nurse)
- Large-screen monitor

Before you start

Make sure that you have a basic familiarity with the program. You should know the following:

- How to start the truck
- How to check to see what commodities you need
- How to drive
- How to get gas
- What to do when you get tired or hungry, darkness falls, you run out of gas, etc.

Your computer resources and the age and ability of your students will determine whether or not you need to divide the class into teams and how large they need to be. With younger students, it is often preferable to have teams of a 'driver' and a 'navigator.' Then two teams play against each other at the computer.

Talk to the school nurse or health resource person about appropriate ways to measure vision and to enlist their support in performing the evaluation.

Getting started

- Explain the purpose of Crosscountry USA.
- Explain that students will be allowed to use it on the target date provided they have completed the application form.
- Show the students the software using the large-screen monitor. Make sure to point out the important items noted above.
- Pass out copies of the 'Application Form.'

Students can complete the forms over a period of several days, although you may want to schedule specific times for the vision test and library research.

Once the students complete the 'Application Form,' review it and determine if it merits the awarding of a 'Driver's License.' Don't worry too much about the technical aspects of interacting with the program. Students should use their application form to test their theories when they encounter specific situations in the program.

Crosscountry USA 2 Driver's License Application Form

Name of applicant:

_____

Class _____ Examiner_____

Complete the activities below and return this form to your examiner. Successful applicants will be awarded a Crosscountry USA Driver's License.

1. Choose a commodity from Crosscountry USA and write a paragraph on its importance to us -- for good and bad. Try to find out some interesting statistics about it.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. Choose a city or town from Crosscountry USA and write a paragraph on the things that make it important. Try to find out its population, its major industries and some interesting things to do there.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

3. Write a brief description of Crosscountry USA and the goal of the program.

_____

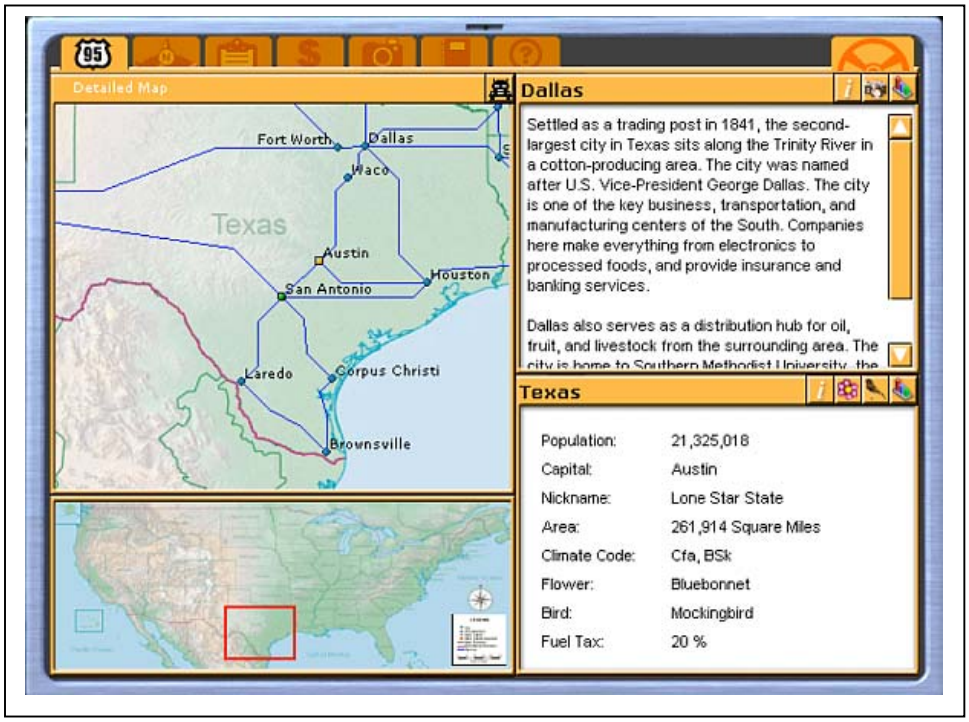
_____

_____

_____

_____

4. When you play Crosscountry USA 2, you'll see the map below. Answer the following questions about traveling.



What direction of travel will take you from:

i) San Antonio to Laredo _____

ii) Austin to Dallas _____

iii) Dallas to Fort Worth _____

5. Vision is important. Record the results of your vision test below.

Uncorrected: Left Eye _____ Right Eye _____

Corrected: Left Eye _____ Right Eye _____

6. Look at the dashboard and use it to help you answer the questions that follow.

i) It's getting dark soon. What should you do when darkness falls so that you can keep on driving?

_____

_____

ii) If it starts to rain, what do you need to do?

_____

iii) If you started driving in San Diego (Pacific Time Zone) and are now in Dallas (Central Time Zone) and have not set your clock, what is the correct time?

_____.

iv) You are getting low on gas. What should you do if you can't find a gas station and you run out of gas before you get to the next city?

_____

Official Driver's License

Official Crosscountry Trucking License

CROSSCOUNTRY USA 2

CUSA2-494-0187-9592

CLASS	RESTRICTIONS			
DATE OF BIRTH				
MALE / FEMALE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	EYES	HAIR

Having diligently completed the required study and performed the prescribed exercises. With all the rights, honors, and prerogatives so pertaining.

This license is awarded to: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Examiner: _____

Driver's Signiture: _____

Official Crosscountry Trucking License

CROSSCOUNTRY USA 2

CUSA2-494-0187-9592

CLASS	RESTRICTIONS			
DATE OF BIRTH				
MALE / FEMALE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	EYES	HAIR

Having diligently completed the required study and performed the prescribed exercises. With all the rights, honors, and prerogatives so pertaining.

This license is awarded to: _____

Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Examiner: _____

Driver's Signiture: _____

Crosscountry USA Vocabulary List

A
aircraft
Alabama
apples
Arizona
Arkansas

B
bar
battery
beef
beer
belt
books
brake
buckle

C
cafe
California
call
cameras
Carolina
CB
chain
chains
change
channel
charge
chemicals
clock
clothing
coal
Colorado
computers
Connecticut
continue
copper
corn
cotton

D
Dakota
dashboard
Delaware
diesel
dine
diner
drive

E
east
engine
enter
expense

F
fertilizer
fill
find
fix
flag
flat
Florida
food
fuel
furniture

G
gas
gasoline
Georgia
glass
gold
granite

H
Hawaii
headlamp
headlights
health
hit
hitch
hitchhike
hitchhiker
hogs
hotel

I
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
inventory
Iowa
iron
Island

J
Jersey
jewelry

K
Kansas
Kentucky

L
lead
leather
lights
listen
load
Louisiana
lumber

M
Maine
maple
marble
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi
Missouri
molybdenum
Montana
motel
motor
movie

N
natural
Nebraska
Nevada
new
north
northeast
northwest

O
Ohio
oil
Oklahoma
oranges
Oregon

P
paper
parts
pay
peanuts
Pennsylvania
phone
pick
pineapple
police
potatoes
put

Q
quit

R
radio
remove
repair
rest
restaurant
restore
Rhode Island
rice
rubber

S
salt
seafood
seatbelt
set
sheep
silver
sleep
south
southeast
southwest
soybeans
speed
start
station
steel

stop
sulfur
syrup

T
take
tank
Tennessee
Texas
textiles
time
tip
tire
tobacco
tow
truck
turn

U
unbuckle
undo
unlock
uranium
Utah

V
vegetables
Vermont
version
Virginia

W
wait
walk
warehouse
Washington
wear
west
wheat
wine
wipers
Wisconsin
wool
Wyoming

X

Y

Z
zinc